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Israel's vaccine pass will expire 6 months after the 2nd dose, meaning people will need booster shots to keep going to restaurants and bars

Marianne Guenot Sep 1, 2021, 3:25 AM



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An Israeli girl receives a dose of COVID-19 vaccine in Tel Aviv, Israel. JACK GUEZ/AFP via Getty Images

Israel has set an expiration date on its vaccine pass, which enables access to restaurants and bars.

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A booster shot received within five months of the second dose extends the pass' validity by six months.

Israel has already delivered more than 1.9 million boosters, and people aged 12 and over are now eligible.

Israel said its vaccine pass, which grants access to nonessential venues like restaurants and bars, now expires six months after the second dose of vaccine.

Getting a booster shot five months after the second dose resets the clock and extends eligibility for the so-called "green pass" by another six months, Israel's health

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The news comes as Israel rolls out boosters to most of its population. On Sunday,

Israel's health minister granted access to a third shot to all those over the age of 12 who received a second shot at least five months prior, [the Times of Israel reported](#).

"From today, the third dose is available to everyone," said Israeli Health Ministry Director-General Nachman Ash on Sunday, the Times of Israel reported.

The pass is also valid within six months of recovery from COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status.

It is required to gain access to a number of nonessential venues such as bars and restaurants, [The Wall Street Journal](#) previously reported.

The pass applies to anyone over the age of three. Children who aren't eligible for the vaccine can prove their COVID-19 status using a free antigenic test, [per Israel's health ministry guidance](#).

Vaccines remain [highly protective against severe disease and death](#). But [data](#)

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The country has been administering booster shots for more than a month. The third dose of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccines first became available to all those [over the age of 80 in late July](#), and Israel has been gradually extending the [age eligibility](#).

As of Sunday, about 1.9 million Israelis had received a third dose of COVID-19 vaccine, [per the Times of Israel](#).

This month, the US is also set to [roll out boosters](#) to most Americans who got their second shot more than eight months ago.

The [UK](#), [Germany](#), and [France](#) have also announced their intention to roll out the third shots to more vulnerable populations in September.

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The World Health Organization has [issued a moratorium](#) on booster doses until at least the end of September. Vaccine boosters for the "fit and healthy" are a "'luxury' item," the WHO said in a statement sent to Insider on Tuesday.

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